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Approved For Release 2004/10/12 : CIA-RDP80M00165A000700030014-0

Executive Registry

77-2690

OLC 77-4699
1 November 1977

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Central Intelligence

FROM: Legislative Counsel

SUBJECT: Clearances for Access to Compartmented
Information by Congressional Staff
Personnel

1. ☐ Action Requested: This memorandum contains a recommendation that you reaffirm Intelligence Community policy regarding access to compartmented information by Congressional staff members.

2. ☐ Background: On several occasions, most recently by Senator ~~Frank~~ Cranston in March of this year, we have received requests from members of Congress that we grant clearances for access to compartmented information for members of their personal staff. We have recently refused to grant these access clearances to personal staffers, following the long-established procedure of granting this type of access clearance only to those persons who are employed by committees of Congress and on committee payroll.

3. ☐ The problem has been complicated by the development of the concept of staff designees, a term used to refer to a member of a Congressman's personal staff whom he designates to support him in his work on a specific committee. We have determined that these individuals would not be granted access to compartmented information unless they were in fact on the committee payroll and a request is made by the chairman of that committee.

4. ☐ The Department of Defense has recently received a request from Senator Sam Nunn that Jeffrey Record, of his personal staff, be granted access to compartmented information because of the work Mr. Record is doing on behalf of the Senator regarding SALT. We understand that Senator Frank Church is prevailing upon Chairman John

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Sparkman to submit a formal request on behalf of Mark Moran, a member of Senator Church's personal staff. This Office has been in close touch with the Congressional Relations staffs of other elements of the Intelligence Community and there is full accord among us on this matter.

25X1 5. ☐ Recommendation: In view of the cases being raised by Senators Church and Nunn and in anticipation of other formal requests being made, I recommend that you make sure that all representatives of the NFIB are informed of the agreed position on this matter.

SIGNED

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